

Little Red Riding Hood

Complete with the past simple of the verbs in brackets.

Once upon a time there _____ (be) a little girl who _____ (be) loved by everyone, but most of all by her grandmother. Once she _____ (give) her a little riding hood of red velvet, which _____ (suit) her so well that she would never wear anything else; so she _____ (be) always called "Little Red Riding Hood."



One day her mother _____ (ask) her to take a piece of cake and a bottle of wine to her grandmother because she _____ (be) ill and weak. Her mother _____ (tell) her to set out before it _____ (get) hot and not to run off the path.

The grandmother _____ (live) out in the wood and just as Little Red Riding Hood _____ (enter) the wood, a wolf _____ (meet) her. Red Riding Hood _____ (do) not know what an evil creature he _____ (be), and _____ (be) not at all afraid of him.



"Good day, Little Red Riding Hood.", _____ (say) he.

"Thank you kindly, wolf."

"Where are you going so early, Little Red Riding Hood?"

"To my grandmother's."

"What have you got in your basket?"

"Cake and wine. Poor grandmother is sick so I am taking her something good, to make her stronger."

"Where does your grandmother live, Little Red Riding Hood?"

"In the wood.", _____ (reply) Little Red Riding Hood.

The wolf _____ (think) to himself: "What a tender young creature! What a nice plump mouthful. She will be better to eat than the old woman. I must act cleverly, so as to catch both."

So he _____ (walk) for a short time by the side of Little Red Riding Hood, and then he _____ (say): "See, Little Red Riding Hood, how pretty the flowers are about here. Why do you not look round?"

Little Red Riding Hood _____ (raise) her eyes, and when she _____ (see) the sunbeams dancing here and there through the trees, and pretty flowers growing everywhere, she _____ (think): "Suppose I take grandmother a fresh nosegay; that would please her too. It is so early in the day that I shall still get there in good time."



So she _____ (run) from the path into the wood to look for flowers. And whenever she _____ (have) picked one, she _____ (fancy) that she _____ (see) a still prettier one farther on, and _____ (run) after it, and so _____ (get) deeper and deeper into the wood.

Meanwhile the wolf _____ (run) straight to the grandmother's house and _____ (knock) at the door.



"Who is there?"

"Little Red Riding Hood.", _____ (reply) the wolf. "She is bringing cake and wine; open the door."

"Lift the latch.", _____ (call) out the grandmother, "I am too weak, and cannot get up."

The wolf _____ (lift) the latch, the door _____ (open), and without saying a word he _____ (go) straight to the grandmother's bed, and _____ (devour) her. Then he _____ (put) on her clothes, _____ (dress) himself in her cap, _____ (lay) himself in bed and _____ (draw) the curtains.

Little Red Riding Hood, who _____ (have) been running about picking flowers, then _____ (remember) her grandmother and _____ (set) out on the way to her.

She _____ (be) surprised to find the cottage door standing open, and when she _____ (go) into the room, she _____ (call) out: "Good morning!", but _____ (receive) no answer; so she _____ (go) to the bed and _____ (draw) back the curtains. There _____ (lay) her grandmother with her cap _____ (pull) far over her face, and looking very strange.



"Oh! Grandmother", she _____ (say), "what big ears you have!"

"All the better to hear you with, my child!", _____ (be) the reply.

"But, grandmother, what big eyes you have!", she _____ (say).

"All the better to see you with, my dear."

"But, grandmother, what large hands you have!"

"All the better to hug you with."

"Oh! But, grandmother, what a terrible big mouth you have!"

"All the better to eat you with!"

And scarcely _____ (have) the wolf said this, than with one jump he _____ (be) out of bed and _____ (swallow) up Red Riding Hood.

When the wolf _____ (have) appeased his appetite, he _____ (lay) down again in the bed, _____ (fall) asleep and _____ (begin) to snore very loud.



The huntsman _____ (be) just passing the house, and _____ (think) to himself: "How the old woman is snoring! I must just see if she wants anything." So he _____ (go) into the room, and when he _____ (come) to the bed, he _____ (see) that the wolf _____ (be) lying in it.

"Do I find you here, you old sinner!" _____ (say) he. "I have long sought you!" But just as he _____ (be) going to fire at him, it _____ (occur) to him that the wolf might have devoured the grandmother, and that she might still be saved, so he _____ (do) not fire, but _____ (take) a pair of scissors, and _____ (begin) to cut open the stomach of the sleeping wolf.

When he _____ (have) made two snips, he _____ (see) the little red riding hood shining, and then he _____ (make) two snips more, and the little girl _____ (spring) out.

After that the grandmother _____ (come) out alive also. Red Riding Hood, quickly _____ (fetch) great stones with which they _____ (fill) the wolf's belly, and when he _____ (awake), he _____ (want) to run away, but the stones _____ (be) so heavy that he _____ (collapse) at once, and _____ (fall) dead.

Then all three _____ (be) delighted. The huntsman _____ (draw) off the wolf's skin and _____ (go) home with it; the grandmother _____ (eat) the cake and _____ (drink) the wine which Red Riding Hood _____ (have) brought, and _____ (revive). But Red Riding Hood _____ (think) to herself: "As long as I live, I will never leave the path by myself to run into the wood, when my mother has forbidden me to do so."

<http://www.eastoftheweb.com/short-stories/UBooks/LittRed.shtml>
(shortened and adapted)

